

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 10770 01 OF 02 131413Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 AID-20 DPW-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11

TRSE-00 COME-00 AGR-20 DRC-01 /202 W

----- 054223

P R 131153Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7297

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL UDORN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

CINCUSARPAC

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 10770 01 OF 02 131413Z

DIA WASHDC

CGFMFPAC
CGUSARSUPTHAI
CNO
COMNAVINTCOM
COMSEVENTHFLT
COMUSMACTHAI
7/13 AF
COMUSSAG
III MAF
CINCPACAF
CTG SEVEN INE PT FOUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 10770

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS PFOR MOPS ECON CB
SUBJECT: KHMER REPORT -- AUGUST 13, 1974

GENERAL

1. PHNOM PENH REACTED TO THE NEWS OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION WITH AMIXTURE OF TREPIDATION AS TO WHAT THIS MIGHT MEAN FOR THE GKR AND SATISFACTION WITH THE ASSURANCES OF PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER ABOUT THE CONTINUITY OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. AS THE GOVERNMENT PREPARED TO CELEBRATE ARMED FORCES DAY IN COMMEMORATION OF THE FIRST YEAR OF SUCCESSFUL FANK EFFORTS ON ITS OWN, WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF U.S. AIR POWER, THE RESULTS FROM THE BATTLEFIELD WERE MIXED. THE KC INFLECTED LOSSES ON TWO MEKONG RIVER CONVOYS DESTINED FOR PHNOM PENH AND KOMPONG CHAM, BUT FANK SUCCEEDED IN REOPENING ROUTE 6 NORTHWEST OF SIEM REAP, BEAT BACK AN ATTACK AGAINST SVAY KRIENG, AND RELIVED AN ENCIRCLED OUTPOST SOUTHWEST OF KOMPONG CHHNANG. ON THE DEPLOMATIC FRONT, BOTH PRIME MINISTER LONG BORET AND FOREIGN MINISTER KEUKY LIM EN-

BARKED ON MISSIONS ABROAD IN PREPARATION FOR THE KHMER CREDENTIALS DEBATE IN THE UNGA THIS FALL. SIHANOUK AND PENN NOUTH, AS WELL AS "IN-COUNTRY" FUNK PROPAGANDA, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PHNOM 10770 01 OF 02 131413Z

CONTINUED TO REJECT NEGOTIATIONS AND TO POUR COLD WATER ON SPECULATION AND RUMORS OF GKR-KC CONTACTS.

POLITICAL (INTERNAL)

REACTION TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION CENTERED ON KHMER FEARS ABOUT FUTURE AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD CAMBODIA. THE GKR ISSUED A PUBLIC STATEMENT NOTING THAT THE RESIGNATION IS AN INTERNAL MATTER FOR THE UNITED

STATES AND WELCOMING "WITH SATISFACTION" PRESIDENT FORD'S STATEMENT CONCERNING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. VERNACULAR DAILIES HAVE CONGRATULATED THE UNITED STATES AS A COUNTRY DEVOTED TO RESPECT FOR LAW. ALL PAPERS WERE RELIEVED TO SEE SECRETARY KISSINGER STAMING ON AND NOTED THAT AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD CAMBODIA SHOULD CONTINUE UNCHANGED.

AUGUST 15 HAS BEEN CHOSE KHMER "ARMED FORCES DAY" TO CELEBRATE A YEAR OF SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF AMERICAN AIR FORCE. A MASSIVE PARADE WILL HIGHLIGHT THE CELEBRATION AND MARSHAL LON NOL WILL SPEAK BRIEFLY FROM THE REVIEWING STAND.

A KHMER DAILY NEWSPAPER REPORTED THA ARMED FORCES DAY WOULD ALSO SEE A NUMBER OF FANK GENERALS AND COLONELS PROMOTED. THE LIST PUBLISHED BY THE PAPER INCLUDED SOME COMPETENT, YOUNGER OFFICERS BUT ALSO NAMED SOME OF THE MARSHAL'S MORE INEFFECTIVE AND DISHONEST CRONIES. THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF THE PROMOTION LIST, AND THE OFFENDING NEWSPAPER HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN SUSPENDED FOR TWO WEEKS, CHARGED WITH MOCKING THE ARMY AND INJURING ITS MORALE AND HONOR.

THE SUPREME PATRICARCH OF COMBODIA'S LARGEST BUDDHIST SECT VISTED OUDONG, THE RECENTLY RECAPTURED ONE-TIME ROYAL AND RELIGIOUS CAPITAL ON AUGUST 10. HE DENOUNCED COMMUNIST DESTRUCTION OF RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES AND APPEALED TO KHMER OF ALL TEND-

ENCIES TO UNITE FOR PEACE AND FOR AN END TO MUTAL KILLING IN ORDER TO RETURN TO THE PROSPERITY WHICH MARKED THE ANGKOR ERA.

POLITICAL (EXTERNAL)

PRIME MINISTER LONG BORET LEFT PHNOM PENH AUGUST 8
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PHNOM 10770 01 OF 02 131413Z

FOR A SERIES OF BRIEF VISITS TO SEVERAL ASEAN NATIONS IN ORDER TO BRIEF THEM ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN CAMBODIA. HIS FIRST STOP WAS IN JAKARTA, WHERE HE CONFERRED WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO AND FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK. ON AUGUST 11 HE ARRIVED IN MANILA FOR A TWO - THREE DAY STAY. HIS PLANS THEN CALL FOR HIM TO VISIT THAILAND AND RETURN TO PHNOM PENH ABOUT AUGUST 15. MALAYSIAN PREOCCUPATION WITH UPCOMING

GENERAL ELECTIONS PREVENTED BORET FROM VISITING KUALA LUMPUR AS WELL.

FOREIGN MINISTER KEUKY LIM WAS ALSO ON THE ROAD THIS WEEK, AS THE GKR STEPPED UP ITS DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IN ANTICIPATION OF THE 29TH UNGA SESSION BATTLE OVER KHMER VREREDENTIALS. LIM LEFT PHNOM PENH AUGUST 11 AND PLANS TO VISIT GENEVA, ABIDJAN, MONROVIA AND POSSIBLY

ONE OR TWO ARAB NATIONS PRIOR TO RETURNING TO PHNOM PENH.

GENERAL SURAKIJ MAYALARP, CHIEF OF THE THAI
GENERAL STAFF, HEADED A THAI MILITARY DELEGATION WHICH
VISITED THE GKR AUGUST 6 -8. THE DELEGATION WAS RE-
CEIVED BY PRESIDENT LON NOL AND OTHER HIGH RANKING GKR
OFFICIALS.

GRUNK/FUNK

THE KC "CAMBODIAN INFORMATION AGENCY" (AKI) MADE
ITS FIRST COMMENT ON THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT NIXON
IN TYPICALLY SHRILL AND VITUPERATIVE FASHON. IT CLAIMED
THAT THE PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR THE NIXON RESIGNATION
WERE HIS "WARLIKE, AGGRESSIVE" POLICY IN INDOCHINA AND
ELSEWHERE AND THE DEFEATS THAT HE AND HIS "INTERNATIONAL
ASSASSYNS " HAD SUFFERED IN CARRYING OUT THIS POLICY.

AKI WARNED THAT IF PRESIDENT FORD PERSISTS IN FOLLOWING
THE NIXON POLICIES, HE TOO WILL FALL.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 10770 02 OF 02 131442Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 AID-20 DPW-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11

TRSE-00 COME-00 AGR-20 DRC-01 /202 W

----- 054537

P R 131153Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7298

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL UDORN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION USUN
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CINCUSARPAC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 10770 02 OF 02 131442Z

DIA WASHDC
CGFMFPAC
CGUSARSUPTHAI
CNO
COMNAVINTCOM
COMSEVENTHFLT
COMUSMACTHAI
7/13 AF
COMUSSAG
III MAF
CINCPACAF
CTG SEVEN NINE PT FOUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 10770

AFP PEKING HAS REPORTED SIHANOUK'S QUICK RE-
ACTION TO PRESS REPORTS OF GKR PRIME MINISTER LONG
BORET'S COMMENTS DURING HIS CURRENT TRIP (WHICH FUNK
PROPAGANDA HAS ALREADY PREDICTED WILL FAIL) THAT
SIHANOUK
PPRESENTS NO ONE AND THAT KHIEU SAMPHAN AND
THE "INTERIOR" PORTION OF GRUNK/FUNK HAD NOT YET RULES
OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF TALKS. SIHANOUK RETORTED TO
AFP THAT HE HAD A MESSAGE FROM KHIEU SAMPHAN PLEDGING
PERSONAL LOYALTY TO THE PRINCE, RULING OUT NEGOTIATIONS
AND PROMISING THAT THE KC WOULD FIGHT ON UNTIL TOTAL
VICTORY. GRUNK PRIME MINISTER PENN NOUTH CONTRIBUTED
TO THE CHORUS ON AUGUST 12 WHEN HE STATED THAT "THERE
WASN'T, THERE ISN'T AND THERE WILL NEVER BE" CONTACT,

NEGOTIATION OR COMPROMISE BETWEEN GRUNK/FUNK AND THE GKR. HE URGED WORLD OPINION TO PAY NO ATTENTION TO ALLEGED GKR-US INSPIRED RUMORS TO THE CONTRARY.

IN A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH THE MAGAZINE "AFRIQUE-ASIE", SIHANOUK REALISTICALLY DESCRIBED THE REDUCTION OF KC BATTLEFIELD ACTIVITY THAT WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE RAINY SEASON, BUT PROMISED A RADICAL CHANGE IN THE MILITARY SITUATION NEXT DRY SEASON. ALTHOUGH INTERNAL FUNK PROPAGANDA WAS CONSIDERABLY MORE BELLIGERENT, AND FILLED WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF ALLEGED RAINY SEASON TRIUMPHS, THE RELATIVELY MODEST COMMENT THAT COMMUNIST TROOPS HAVE THUS FAR "PINNED" FUNK UNDERFOOT AND

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PHNOM 10770 02 OF 02 131442Z

"CREATED NEW CONDITIONS FOR FUTURE ATTACKS IN THE NEXT DRY SEASON" SEEMED IMPLICITLY TO CONFIRM SIHANOUK'S COMMENTS. ANOTHER PROPAGANDA BROADCAST DESCRIBED AS A RAINY SEASON TRIUMPH THE FACT THAT THE GKR JULY 9 "VILE MANEUVER OF UNCONDITIONAL NEGOTIATIONS" WAS "DENOUNCED AND UNMASKED".

SIHANOUK AND PENN NOUTH "MET AND FETED" THE ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN PEKING ON AUGUST 8. THE PRINCE ALSO RECEIVED, ON AUGUST 12, DON MIGUEL EYEGUE NTUTUMU, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA.

ECONOMIC

A NEW P.L. 480 AGREEMENT FOR FY 1975, SIGNED AUGUST 10, PROVIDES FOR THE EARLY DELIVERY OF 50,000 TONS OF RICE, VALUED AT \$15.7 MILLION. ADDITIONAL AGRICULTURAL GOODS WILL BE PROVIDED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. IN FY 1974, CAMBODIA RECEIVED \$183.0 MILLION IN COMMODITY SUPPORT UNDER THE P.L. 480 PROGRAM, INCLUDING MAINLY RICE, AND ALSO WHEAT, CORN, TOBACCO, VEGETABLE OIL AND COTTON YARN.

BEEF PRICES DECLINED BY 16 PERCENT DURING THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 11. RICE, PORT, CHICKEN AND MILK WERE UNCHANGED. SALT, SUGAR, FISH AND SOAP SHOWED MILD INCREASES. MOST FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRICES SHOWED FAIRLY SIZEABLE INCREASES. THE BLACK MARKET EXCHANGE RATE DROPPED FROM 1,100 TO 1,050 RIELS PER DOLLAR DURING THE WEEK.

RICE STOCKS IN PHNOM PENH AS OF AUGUST 11, TOTALLED 49,220 M/T, OR A 64 DAYS' SUPPLY ON THE BASIS OF THE CURRENT DAILY DRAWDOWN RATE OF 770 M/T. ARRIVALS DURING THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 11 INCLUDED 5,200 M/T FROM SAIGON AND 330 M/T FROM BATTAMBANK.

MILITARY

M

KC FORCES HARASSED CONVOYS ALONG CAMBODIA'S WATERWAYS ON TWO OCCASIONS DURING THE WEEK. ON AUGUST 10, A 14-SHIP MEKONG CONVOY PROCEEDING TOWARD PHNOM PENH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PHNOM 10770 02 OF 02 131442Z

RECEIVED ENEMY FIRE FROM SEVERAL POSITIONS ALONG THE RIVER'S WEST BANK, RESULTING IN HITS ON TWO CARGOSHIPS AND THREE NAVAL VESSELS. ONE OF THE CARGO SHIPS WAS BEACHED AND FINALLY TURNED OVER NEAR PEAM CHOR; THE RESULTS OF THE SALVAGE EFFORTS ARE NOT YET KNOWN. THE SECOND CARGO SHIP MANAGED TO REACH PHNOM PENH, WHERE IT BEGAN TO TAKE WATER; IT IS NOW BEING REPAIRED. ON AUGUST 12, A CONVOY HAULING POLICE FORCES AND AMMUNITION TO KOMPONG CHAM RECEIVED SUCH HEAVY FIRE THAT IT WAS FORCED TO RETURN TO PHNOM PENH. TWO KHMER NAVY VESSELS WERE SUNK AND THREE OTHER SHIPS WERE DAMAGED, WITH SIX PERSONS KILLED, 27 WOUNDED AND 19 MISSING.

SU IN THE NORTHWESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY, FANK TROOPS ENDED THE ENEMY INTERDICTION OF ROUTE 6 SOME 25 KILOMETERS FROM SIEM REAP, SUFFERING 16 KILLED AND 84 WOUNDED IN THE PROCESS, WHILE KILLING 72 ENEMY SOLDIERS. FANK ALSO MADE PROGRESS IN THE TROUBLESOME KOMPONG CHHNANG AREA, LINKING UP WITH A BESIEGED OUTPOST TEN KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF THE CITY. ON AUGUST 7, KC TROOPS OVERRAN A FANK OUTPOST ON THE EAST BANK OF THE TONLE SAP RIVER, GUARDING THE HARBOR OF LOVEK. FRIENDLY FORCES COUNTER-ATTACKED AND RETOOK THE POSITION THE SAME DAY, BUT LOST OVER 90 KILLED OR MISSING, AND AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY OF WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT.

WHAT WAS REPORTED TO BE A JOINT NVA/KC FORCE ATTACKED THE DEFENSIVE PERIMETER OF THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF SVAY RIENG LOCATED IN SOUTHERN CAMBODIA. THE ATTACK WAS SUPPORTED BY RECOILLESS RIFLE AND 122MM ROCKET FIRE. FANK TROOPS SUCCEEDED IN BLOCKING THE ATTACK AND KILLING 46 ENEMY, 22 OF WHOM WERE REPORTED TO BE NVA. ELSEWHERE, GOVERNMENT FORCES ALONG ROUTE 4 EAST OF THE PICH NIL PASS CONTINUED TO MEET STIFF ENEMY RESISTANCE AND FAILED TO BREAK THROUGH. THEY KILLED 130 COMMUNIST SOLDIERS IN THE EFFORT, BUT SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES THEMSELVES. THE KC TOOK THEIR LUMPS ALONG ROUTE 61 NORTHEAST OF PHNOM PENH, AS AN ATTACK FAILED AND THEY WERE FORCED TO WITHDRAW, LEAVING BEHIND OVER 100 DEAD.

PHNOM PENH TOOK ONLY TWO 107MM ROCKETS DURING THE WEEK, WHICH WOUNDED TWO PERSONS.

DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 PHNOM 10770 02 OF 02 131442Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WEEKLY REPORT, POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PHNOM10770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740221-1103
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740852/aaaabsdf.tel
Line Count: 389
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 8
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KHMER REPORT -- AUGUST 13, 1974 GENERAL
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PFOR, MOPS, ECON, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005